

Names with whatever staff assistance that Subcommittee needs. He also would provide the very limited facilities needed for the Board as a whole as distinguished from its subcommittee.

Under existing legislation (61 Stat.456) the Board, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, has the duty of formulating principles, policies and procedures to be followed for domestic and foreign names, and for deciding the standard names and their orthography for official use. The Secretary has the duty of providing assistance to the Board and promulgating the name decisions of the Board.

As to the promulgation of Board decisions there is little reason why the Secretary of the Interior should retain such a responsibility with respect to foreign names. The same applies to approving principles, policies and procedures formulated by the Board with respect to foreign geographic names. This Department does not have any special interest with this aspect of geographic name work. Accordingly, it is suggested that the Central Intelligence Agency arrange to produce whatever gazetteers of foreign names that it and its clients need, and that it render staff assistance to the Board's Subcommittee on Foreign Names.

If you agree with the foregoing proposal, effect can be given to such agreement by your signing and returning this letter to me. It is understood, of course, that certain administrative arrangements would have to be made, particularly with respect to personnel to be transferred to your Agency from the Office of Geography. Administrative Assistant Secretary Beasley of the Department would cooperate with members of your staff on completing these arrangements.

Sincerely yours,

Assistant Secretary of the Interior

I concur:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Director, Central Intelligence Agency

Hon. Allen W. Dulles  
Director  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington 25, D. C.

Enclosures

TABLE AOFFICE OF GEOGRAPHY - HISTORY OF APPROPRIATION REQUESTS

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Department Estimate</u>	<u>Budget Bureau Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>
1947	\$247,700	\$82,000	\$12,956
1948	94,500	90,000	12,956
1949	456,000	90,000	13,266
1950	402,500	14,400	14,400
1951	216,622	91,400	2,500*
1952	595,000	--	--
1953	--	--	--
1954	--	--	--
1955	--	--	--
1956	509,000	--	--

\* Continuing authority voted pending Congressional action on Department appropriation bill. No funds voted for Office of Geography.

TABLE B  
OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHY  
STATEMENTS OF APPROPRIATIONS AND ADVANCES  
FISCAL YEARS 1946 - 1956

	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
Appropriated to Interior	13,350	12,956	12,956	13,266	14,400	2,500	-	-	-	-	-
Advanced from:											
Department of the Army	200,000	175,000	45,000	-	-	-	10,000 <sup>1/</sup>	60,000 <sup>2/</sup>	-	-	-
Department of the Air Force	-	-	-	-	-	55,000	90,000	83,000	75,000	70,000 <sup>3/</sup>	16,500
Department of the Navy	-	-	-	-	32,316	-	-	29,157	-	-	-
Central Intelligence Agency	-	5,000	90,452	257,500	320,000 <sup>4/</sup>	315,000	335,000 <sup>5/</sup>	335,000	368,824	349,946	386,800
National Park Service	-	-	3,500	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bureau of Mines	-	-	-	5,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	213,350	192,956	151,908	275,766	366,716	372,500	435,000	507,157	443,824	419,946	403,300

1/Returned \$5,000 to Department of the Army  
2/Returned \$15,000 to Department of the Army  
3/Returned \$5,000 to Department of the Air Force  
4/Returned \$50,000 to Central Intelligence Agency  
5/Returned \$10,000 to Central Intelligence Agency

Existing Situation Respecting Foreign Name Work of Office of Geography

Legislation: 61 Stat. 456 (1947) established Board on Geographic Names and directed the Secretary, conjointly with the Board, to work for uniformity in geographic nomenclature and orthography.

The Board: Representatives of the following Departments: State, Air Force, Navy, Army, Post Office, Agriculture, Commerce, and Interior; also, Central Intelligence Agency, Library of Congress, and Government Printing Office.

Functions: (a) The Board. Subject to the approval of the Secretary, the Board on Geographic Names shall formulate principles policy and procedures to be followed for domestic and foreign names and their orthography for official use.

(b) The Secretary. He shall provide for such researches and staff as the Board needs to perform its functions; keep necessary records, provide physical facilities for the Board; he shall promulgate the name decisions of the Board.

Funds: (a) For domestic name work. None since fiscal year 1951. (See Table A)

(b) For foreign name work. (See Table B.)

Staff: Approximately 80 persons, virtually all of whom are engaged in preparing gazetteers of foreign geographic names for the CIA and its client agencies.

Activities: (a) Domestic name work. Decisions on comparatively few disputed name cases. No appropriation. Inability to obtain any appropriations for Office of Geography negates provisions of the law directing standardization of domestic names. Domestic map making agencies conduct geographic name function themselves as an incident to map making, submitting only names known to be in dispute for adjudication. New quadrangle maps are published each year containing thousands of names without benefit of consideration by the Board on Geographic Names or of the Office.

(b) Foreign Name Work. Consists largely of compiling gazetteers (lists of names in alphabetic order with longitude and latitude) for whole countries, rendered into the Roman alphabet, published in book form. Disputes as to proper names are rare. Gazetteers are used for preparing foreign maps by CIA and its client agencies. Thousands of geographic names appear in a single gazetteer.

Line of  
Demarcation

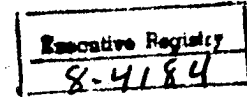
There is a very sharp line between domestic and foreign names. The Board is organized as follows:

Executive Subcommittee  
Domestic Subcommittee  
Foreign Subcommittee

Operating procedures are wholly different. Library and file facilities are separated. Source of funds are separate. The entire staff of approximately 80 persons are engaged primarily in foreign name work.

OFFICE OF THE  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
WASHINGTON



June 29, 1956

My dear Mr. Dulles:

Upon my return to the office yesterday I reflected upon our interesting conversation with reference to a proper home for the Division of Geography. I can well understand your problem of finding appropriate space and facilities for the Division, and in that connection I have discussed with my associates here the possibility of assisting you by permitting the Division to stay in the building here until you can make the necessary arrangements in your own buildings.

I am pleased to report that we will be glad to have the Division of Geography remain here for a reasonable period while you solve this problem.

Sincerely yours,

Felix E. Wormser

Felix E. Wormser  
Assistant Secretary

Honorable Allen W. Dulles  
Director  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington 25, D. C.

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7/1/56 1222

*Public Law 86-407—80th Congress*

*(Chapter 336—1st Session)*

§ 1233

AN ACT

To provide a central authority for standardizing geographic names for the purpose of eliminating duplication in standardizing such names among the Federal departments, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Interior, hereinafter called the Secretary, conjointly with the Board on Geographic Names, as hereinafter provided, shall provide for uniformity in geographic nomenclature and orthography throughout the Federal Government. The Secretary may exercise his functions through such officials as he may designate, except that such authority or relative to the final approval or review of actions of the Board on Geographic Names shall be exercised by him, or his Under or Assistant Secretaries.

Sec. 2. There is hereby established a Board on Geographic Names, hereinafter called the Board. The membership of the Board shall include one representative from each of the Departments of State, War, Navy, Post Office, Interior, Agriculture, and Commerce, and from the Government Printing Office, and the Library of Congress. The Board may also include representatives from such Federal agencies as the Secretary, upon recommendation of the Board, shall from time to time find desirable, even though these agencies are in the department otherwise represented on the Board. The members of the Board shall be appointed by the respective heads of the departments or independent agencies that they represent. Each member shall be appointed for a two-year term but may be reappointed to successive terms. The members of the Board shall serve without additional compensation. The Board shall nominate a Chairman to be appointed by the Secretary, and shall establish such working committees as are found desirable.

Sec. 3. The Board, subject to the approval of the Secretary, shall formulate principles, policies, and procedures to be followed with reference to both domestic and foreign geographic names; and shall decide the standard names and their orthography for official use. The principles, policies, and procedures formulated hereunder shall be designed to serve the interests of the Federal Government and the general public, to enlist the effective cooperation of the Federal departments and agencies most concerned, and to give full consideration to the specific interests of particular Federal and State agencies. Action may be taken by the Secretary in any matter wherein the Board does not act within a reasonable time. The Board may make such recommendations to the Secretary as it deems appropriate in connection with this Act.

Sec. 4. The Secretary shall cause such studies and investigations to be made and such records to be kept as may be necessary or desirable in carrying out the purposes of this Act, and he shall provide a plan

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C

[Pub. Law 242.]

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of meeting and staff assistance to the Board. The staff shall be responsible to the Secretary, who shall prescribe its relations to the Board and the committees of the Board. The Secretary may establish from time to time, upon recommendation of the Board, advisory committees of United States citizens who are recognized experts in their respective fields to assist in the solution of special problems arising under this Act.

SEC. 5. For the guidance of the Federal Government, the Secretary shall promulgate in the name of the Board, from time to time and in such form as will carry out the purposes of this Act, decisions with respect to geographic names and principles of geographic nomenclature and orthography. The Secretary shall also furnish such additional information with respect to geographic names as will assist in carrying out the purposes of this Act.

SEC. 6. With respect to geographic names the pertinent decisions and principles issued by the Secretary shall be standard for all material published by the Federal Government. The United States Board on Geographical Names in the Department of the Interior created by Executive order, is hereby abolished, and the duties of said Board are transferred to the Board herein created, and all departments, bureaus, and agencies of the Federal Government shall refer all geographic names and problems to the said Board for the purpose of eliminating duplication of work, personnel, and authority.

SEC. 7. Nothing in this Act shall be construed as applying to the naming of the offices or establishments of any Federal agency.

SEC. 8. There are hereby authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act.

Approved July 25, 1947.